

THE PRINCIPLES.

How Vansittart Came Back to France.

By LOUIS TRACY.

With the editions of the morning papers came dramatic news from an unexpected quarter. Since the outbreak of the war the French and German fleets had been chasing each other over the face of the waters.

The authorities in Berlin issued elegant orders to their Admirals to adopt every device for holding the French. Their supreme efforts must be devoted to harassing the commerce of France and damaging her colonial empire.

Disastrous blows were struck in this fashion, and the French sailors raised a cry of discomfiture. The German fleet was called in time to bring their enemy to close quarters.

In one locality only were they assured of safety for liners and merchantmen. The few German cruisers in the Mediterranean were quickly chased out of it. At last the Ministry of Marine in Paris determined to employ the North Sea and the Baltic with the object of their available force, and with this object a grand concentration was ordered at Brest.

This was the move that Germany had been waiting for. It was to tempt France into some such exploit that her warships were so tentatively sailing to the neighborhood of the Hel and Bremerhaven.

The Kaiser counted on the strength of his shore defenses to safeguard his coasts. On the day that the French fleet, a superb army of fighting material, stood out into the English channel and headed for the German coast, every fast cruiser in the German Navy disappeared from the Baltic and North Sea and they were sighted by English fishing boats apparently making for Iceland.

The French attributed this move to fear; in Whitehall, where naval matters were more clearly understood, its object was read and proved for.

Definite orders were sent to the Admiral commanding the British Mediterranean fleet with the result that the vessels stationed at Gibraltar and those gathered near Malta suddenly sailed with sealed orders.

Just when it came to pass that when the German squadron sailed toward the Hel and the Heligoland and down the North Atlantic, suddenly appeared like birds of prey upon the Sahara Canal waters at Boca Grande and Gabes, the two sections found an overpowering British force calmly awaiting them.

Protestation was useless, bluster merely wrecked a comparison of the relative weights of ships and guns.

The British commanders pointed out that England was greatly interested in the Sahara. She would no longer permit the destruction of the irrigation methods adopted by Vansittart than witness unmoved the breaking up of the Sahara.

She simply forbade an attack. When German ships met French ships, let them pursue the quarrel by all means, but in the case of a great victory where British capital was largely invested, it was a matter of "hands off."

The alternative was sail or sink. To the intense grief of every man on board the British ships, the discomfited raiders chose the safer course.

For once France was grateful. Not even Wilhelm dared to dream of engaging both France and England in war at the same time.

If these two led the concert of Europe, all others must pipe their tune.

CHAPTER XVII.

WITH THE FOREIGN LEGION.

The Kaiser awaited the French attack at Gravelotte. The center of his great army lay across the main road to Metz. Its southern wing filled the defiles that debouch on the village of Mars la Tour, and Kreuznach's force was strongly posted on the mountain ridge between Gravelotte and Conflans.

Each hour of delay on the part of the French meant a vastly increased degree of efficiency for the Germans. The splendid organization of the invaders was most valuable in precisely such a situation as that which now presented itself. With no fear of unexpected attack on the lines of communication, the magnificent German organization progressed each moment with the accuracy of a well-regulated clock. Reserve troops and supplies constantly reached the localities where they were most needed; there was neither want of food nor lack of ammunition, and the certainty. The contrast between the two armies was never so marked as at this moment when they were inactive on the field.

True, Vansittart's reforming hand had achieved much already. It was a bold thing to suddenly remodel the whole system of command and control of the French army almost under the eyes of the enemy. Few men would dare to undertake such a responsibility. But Jerome dared to do anything, and in the result he was justified. A complicated and utterly inefficient method was replaced by one that already gave satisfaction and would surely work.

The commanding officer of each regiment was made responsible for his own commissariat and transport; the General of each brigade was responsible for the feeding of the regiments; officers of divisional rank were responsible for the distribution of stores in bulk and their proper distribution.

Yet the advantage in time lay with the German, and the French army was not yet ready to meet the German army on the field of battle.

The American proceeded to explain his theory in detail. There would be no hurry and no confusion. The battle would not come until the French army was ready to meet the German army on the field of battle.

By 11:30 the German infantry came within the fire zone of the French artillery and halted. Count Holbach, on his own responsibility, threw forward a battery after another to the front.

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the fields on both sides of the road for a small hamlet of Horville was held by a strong German picket, which the French drove back.

By 10 o'clock, however, the growing intensity of the German skirmishers and the presence of the French artillery, which was now directed by Beaumarchais, had his further progress would soon be seriously disputed.

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is beyond Gravelotte, by the side of the Metz road, a small farmstead called Horville.

Then you think we will help you to get there.

There are 400,000 Germans in the way. I wish I was assured of it myself, though I believe we will get the best of the cavalry division in an appearance. On him the detective fastened eagerly.

He looked at the house of Hans Schwartz, friend.

Hans Schwartz, the farmer? Why, close to the house of Hans Schwartz, friend.

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leuth postcard. Even as he partook of some of the refreshment, he piled his quest among the refugees.

He could not get them to collect their scattered belongings, and he was obliged to leave in an appearance. On him the detective fastened eagerly.

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BIG JOKE ON MR. TEETERS.

A LANDSCAPE GARDEN PARLOR AND A BURGLAR HUNT.

Embarrassing Position in Which Miss Ruddle Found Him and the Consequences of Lying Out of the House.

The View of Art, the Household, and the House.

Mr. Teeters' real artistic, I guess, I ain't myself, either, for that matter, but Mr. Teeters don't seem to care. Whenever I say I wish I could fix up our parlor prittler, like some women 'd make it look, Mr. Teeters he asks me if I want to try landscape gardening, or a burglar hunt.

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